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Operator: Darlene S. McGrath

\*\*\*\*\*

Re: *561 IP*  
U.S.S.N. 10/516,887  
Docket No. FA/256  
Customer No. 28596

Enclosing:

- 1) Letter of Transmittal (1 page)
- 2) Information Disclosure Statement (1 page)
- 3) Information Disclosure Citation (2 page)
- 4) References (5)

\*\*\*\*\*

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Attorney Docket No. FA/256

JUN 15 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:  
Martin Hottner

Serial No.: 10/561,887

Filed: December 21, 2005

For: Welded Microseam

) Group Art Unit:

) Examiner:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being  
facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark  
Office on the date shown below:

  
Darlene S. McGrath

June 15, 2006

(date of mailing document)

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

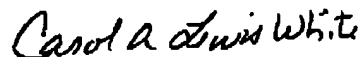
Dear Sir:

We enclose the following papers for filing in the U. S. Patent and  
Trademark Office in connection with the above-identified new Patent  
Application:

1. Information Disclosure Statement (1 page);
2. Information Disclosure Citation (2 pages);
3. References (5)

THE COMMISSIONER IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED AND IS  
REQUESTED TO CHARGE ALL FILING FEES DUE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.16  
AND ALL OTHER FEES DUE UNDER SECTION 1.17 DURING THE  
PENDENCY OF THIS APPLICATION TO OUR DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO.  
07-1729.

Respectfully submitted,



Carol A. Lewis White, 33,306  
W. L. Gore & Associates, Inc.  
551 Paper Mill Road  
P.O. Box 9206  
Newark, DE 19714-9206  
(302) 738-4880

Date: June 15, 2006

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b> <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>				ATTY DOCKET NO. <b>PA/256</b>		APPLICATION NO. <b>10/561,887</b>		
				APPLICANT(S) <b>Martin Hottner</b>				
				FILING DATE <b>12/21/2005</b>		GROUP ART UNIT		
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>								
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
		3,953,566	4/27/76	Gore	264	288		
		4,187,390	2/5/80	Gore	174	102R		
		4,194,041	3/18/80	Gore et al.	428	315		
		4,230,838	10/28/80	Foy et al.	525	408		
		4,493,870	1/15/85	Vrouenraets et al.	428	245		
<b>U.S. PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS</b>								
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>								
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
		WO99/16616	4/8/99	PCT				
		WO99/16620	4/8/99	PCT				
		WO2002/24015	3/28/2002	PCT				
		0410292 A2	1/30/91	EP				
		0721745 A2	7/17/1996	EP				
<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</b>								
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED				

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Form PTO-A820

POB/REV04

Patent and Trademark Office \* U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

(also form PTO-1449)

PAGE 1 OF 2

PAGE 3/149 \* RCVD AT 6/15/2006 4:34:16 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] \* SVR:USPTO-EFXXF-6/34 \* DNIS:2738300 \* CSID:302 292 4153 \* DURATION (mm-ss):29-28

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b> <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>				ATTY DOCKET NO. <b>FA/256</b>		APPLICATION NO. <b>10/561,887</b>	
				Martin Hottner			
				FILING <b>12/21/2005</b>		GROUP ART	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		4,532,316	7/30/85	Henn	528	59	
		4,725,481	2/16/88	Ostapchenko	428	213	
		4,938,817	7/3/90	Langley	156	73.1	
		5,026,591	6/25/91	Henn et al.	428	198	

U.S. PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS <i>(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</i>			

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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